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November 20, 2006

Dear Members of the JBS Council,

How long will you stand on the sidelines while The John Birch Society crumbles before your eyes? What ultimate catastrophe will it take to finally shake you out of your lethargy?

Your inaction during this past year has allowed the Society to deteriorate to the lowest level in its history. (Although money is not the principal issue, have you insisted on receiving a copy of the current financials, similar to what we recently sent you?) Do you intend to just sit on your hands and watch while the Society crashes the rest of the way to total ruin?

The letter we sent out dated October 16, 2006 has returned an incredible response. So many wonderful people have responded shocked and incredulous over what happened to the Society one year ago, and the resultant tragic state JBS is now in.

We have received several hundred responses, many of which were copies of letters to JBS, and so we know that JBS, too, has been inundated with letters and emails from outraged members. (It would be wise of you to request copies of *all* correspondence received at the JBS home office, so you can confirm our claims.)

Yes, there are some who responded that they solidly support those presently in control of JBS. And there is another group, about the same size, who have taken a neutral position and simply encourage both parties to "kiss and make up." But, by an incredible 3 to 1 margin, the responses overwhelmingly support our position, which is to restore The John Birch Society to its principle-centered foundation.

We include here only a sampling of the responses we have received:

"At this time I am very disappointed in the JBS and the leadership involved in the coup.... I always trusted [William Grigg] and his writing, so how can I continue to trust Jack McManus and his co-conspirators?"

Fremont, OH

"Several months ago I became aware of the upheaval among the leadership of the Society. Having always had the utmost respect and admiration for Mr. 'Jack' McManus, I welcomed this change.... Then I began receiving mailings from RWU.... While I was alarmed that such a rift had occurred, I remained unshakably confident that Mr. McManus and the Council must know what is best.... [T]he latest mailing from RWU has really gotten my attention.... [T]his is by far the most catastrophic disaster that has ever befallen the Society."

Fort Worth, TX

"I'm sure it will come as no surprise to you, that it is my recollection that the pro-Catholic and anti-Semitism views of Jack McManus were well known and a concern to many, including my entire family, over 30 years ago."

Former Council Member

"At the time of the take over I called Jack McManus & let him know of my complete disapproval...."

Former Council Member

"I surely do not know all of the reasons for convening the Board of Incorporators meeting, eight days prior to the council meeting, but I am convinced that decision to do so has caused greater damage to the John Birch Society than any other event, in all the years that I have been a member."

Port Angeles, WA

"I am disappointed Will Grigg, Tom Gow, Vance Smith are gone. To me they are the mainstay. I would be for whatever restores them, if possible."

Wheaton, IL

"We lost our Section Leader, State Coordinator, and Mike Armstrong. Tampa has been devastated. I am not sure if I can continue to be a Bircher under those circumstances."

Tampa, FL

"My disapproval of the present situation is so deep that until corrective action is taken I shall withhold my financial support, including membership dues, periodical subscriptions, and responses to special appeals. I am sure many members feel as I do."

Elizabeth City, NJ

"I'm very concerned about the future of the JBS. If the JBS fails, there is no organization that can replace it. Please hang in there!"

Blaine, MN

This 3-to-1 show of support for our position represents a huge repudiation of the present leaders, especially since we are now regarded as "formers." In assessing this response, consider, too, that most of those who received our letter were hearing from us for the first time about events more than a year old, while for the past year they have heard only the excuses and promises of the mutineers.

So, again the question: What evidence will it take to convince you to intervene to rescue the Society from its course toward destruction and irrelevance?

Earlier, we referred to the "JBS home office" rather than the JBS headquarters. We chose our words deliberately, for the head person would actually need to be present to justify the latter terminology, and, as you well know, that is simply not the case.

Because neither Jack nor Art live in Appleton, the organization is virtually leaderless. Anyone can see by the materials flowing from Appleton that those making decisions are lacking in "Birch" understanding. The recent "Determination" packet sent to the entire JBS membership, including many inactives, at great expense, bears that out.

Some members chose to share their frustration with us. Here are a few examples:

"I have received the slick advertising *Determination* packet but do not perceive the 'spirit of growth, hope, innovation, and initiative' mentioned. Instead, I feel apprehensive about the direction The John Birch Society has taken and its impact upon the very existence of JBS as a result of the change of leadership and the questionable means to achieve the coup d'etat."

Nashville, TN

"I did receive the recent 'packet' for recruitment use.... We (I say 'we,' after speaking with others who also received the material), however, are puzzled and disappointed, not knowing what we are to do with it. There is practically nothing in it which I can show non-members. It is empty of anything of interest or importance."

Durango, CO

"The recent mailing I received from JBS is the most ridiculous thing I've ever seen. The only item that might possibly be useful is the flyer on John Birch. But even that couldn't be used effectively to recruit members."

Livonia, MI

"Received a large packet of 'fluff' from Thompson this week."

Bloomer, WI

That is just some of the fruit of the "JBS home office" fiasco. Jack and Art have simply abdicated their leadership responsibilities to the non-Birch P.R. and marketing personnel under the direction of leadership-lacking Alan Scholl. Alan appears to be in charge by default.

You men of the Council did not attend the many Executive Committee meetings where JBS personnel issues were discussed. If you had, you certainly would not have allowed those with track records of incompetence to be promoted to new and higher levels of responsibility.

Unfortunately, Alan Scholl clearly falls into that category. Alan served directly under Tom Gow for several years as Chief Operations Officer (COO). Alan was also asked to head up the Speakers Bureau and the Youth Camps. Tom was overly patient with Alan's lack of administrative abilities and talents. More than once there was a near revolt among Alan's reports. Eventually, Tom and Vance agreed that, in Alan's case, the "Peter Principle" (promotion to a level above one's competence) had taken effect and so they took the COO responsibility off Alan's shoulders, in hopes of saving him as a staff member.

But performance problems continued, even with Alan's reduced responsibility. Then, when the RWU staff was created, Alan was transferred to the RWU building where he was to work exclusively with RWU summer camps and RWU Youth.

Apparently, Alan felt he had lost face and chose to blame Vance for his failings. In 2005, Art was able to enlist Alan as the key agitator at RWU to encourage mutiny among its employees against Vance. (Alan was put on administrative leave by RWU's Executive Director because of Alan's persistent agitation of fellow employees.)

In the days leading up to the 2005 Orlando Council meeting, Alan worked tirelessly to provoke Vance into firing him. When Alan eventually was fired at RWU, his allies, who now had control of JBS, immediately hired him and gave him a secure base of operations to continue his fight against Vance. Now JBS would become the victim of Alan's unrestrained shortcomings.

At their illegal November 11th RWU Board of Directors meeting, Art and Jack clearly tried to reward Alan by appointing him as VP of RWU. They certainly didn't have a full-time position for him at JBS.

And it cost them dearly in squandered resources, when Alan combined with attorney Paul Galvin to map out an outrageous campaign to gain control of RWU. Interestingly, when we were in Appleton last year, shortly before our resignations Alan stood in front of us and acknowledged that he knew we had control of RWU.

The campaign to seize RWU started off extralegal (actually, Alan committed a Class-I felony by misrepresenting himself as an officer of RWU to the State of Wisconsin, *even before* the illegal board meeting and break-in at RWU). And then, through the courts, Alan continued the campaign by cooking up all kinds of hateful and irrelevant accusations against us.

Unequipped to do the job, and full of bitterness and hate, Alan now is the principal decision maker at JBS. Unbelievable!

There were also several responses, such as the following, by individuals who felt that by simply getting the two sides together the problems should be solved:

"I encourage all parties to salvage the best to keep the organization strong. I trust this can be settled for the good of the cause."

Rotonda West, FL

"I think that all who are concerned in this controversy and contention should step forward in making reconciliation and moving on in unity and true brotherhood... I hope that all of you will see it in your hearts to do your best to make things work for the best interest of all of us and our country."

Ironton, MO

"May we have more cooperation and less competition in the quest to quell our Constitution destroyers."

W. Lafayette, IN

"... we need to right the ship. Is there any way the two parties can settle their differences?"

Tuscaloosa, AL

We, too, want to see this settled and the Society returned to its right and proper course. But, as stated in our previous letter, the issues at hand are those of principles, not personalities.

We have fought long, hard, and at great expense over this past year to right the wrongs done by Jack McManus, Art Thompson, and others. Our goal has been stated many times and in many ways. It is simply:

The John Birch Society Executive Committee and Council that existed prior to October 19, 2005 must be reconstituted and given full and complete authority to deal with any and all leadership problems that existed then, and exist now. This principled procedure is how problems and leadership changes, if necessary, were always done in the past, and how it must always be done in the future if the Society is to survive and stand the test of time.

Further, and because of the misuse of authority by Jack McManus and his accomplices, the authority of the JBS Board of Incorporators must be turned over to the reconstituted JBS Executive Committee. Because Jack and others have brought about the ugly events of this past year with the misuse of Board of Incorporator authority, all present Incorporators will need to resign and the previous Executive Committee members elected to fill the vacancies.

Again, dear Council members, it is time for you to stand up and be counted, as some already have. We are truly grateful for the support we have received from G. Allen Bubolz and General Andrew Gatsis.

Bob Bell, you campaigned to be appointed to the Executive Committee. By supporting Art and Jack, you received your reward. How do you feel now about what you and they have done to JBS?

Ward Rowley, you called Wayne several times to try and convince him that the coup was justified. With the Society off course and nearly in shambles, are you still so certain? Or are you ready to help us restore sanity to JBS?

Glen Schmitz, in a letter to Allen Bubolz you wrote that you "would trust Jack McManus with your life." While that may be admirable as a friend, what about the lives and freedoms of others? Do you still believe that Jack's grip on the Board of Incorporators' power entitles him to force all the JBS members throughout the country to continue following his and Art's non-leadership even as the Society plummets into obscurity?

Art Crino, as a trusted member of the Executive Committee, you clandestinely worked behind our backs for months to help bring about the coup. You betrayed the rest of us on the Executive Committee and the trust of your appointed office when you secretly labored with Cliff Wasem and Art Thompson to vilify the man who appointed you. Are you pleased and satisfied with the terrible results of your efforts?

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And, for the rest of you on the Council, your silence has been deafening. Years ago, another Council member, Tom Anderson, would often quip — "When it comes to freedom, silence is not golden...." Robert Welch put together the only organization that can connect freedom-loving Americans into a large enough army to stop the Conspiracy and preserve freedom. Are you, as Council members, yet ready to stand up and be counted? We hope, finally by now, you are.

As for us, we are here to stay. We are NOT going away. Like Mr. Welch, "we mean business every step of the way." The John Birch Society must be restored to its principle-centered base, and all those who have caused this problem must be sent packing. We will not compromise. The Society is too important to the future of all freedom-loving people for us to consider anything less than seeing the Society, once again, whole and intact.

We hope to hear from each of you Council members soon. On December 6, 2006 we plan to send a copy of this letter to the same individuals who received our October 16th letter. We would prefer not to if we knew you were going to act to deal with this problem. If you are not, however, we want as many good patriots as possible to know exactly who bears the responsibility when all of this comes crashing down. It won't just be Jack McManus, Art Thompson, Larry Waters, Gary Benoit, John Fall, Chris Bentley, and Alan Scholl, because you the Council will have allowed it to happen.

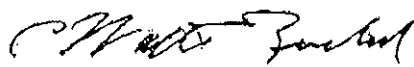
Surely you would agree that it is better to resolve these matters privately, which would have happened had Jack and his fellow Incorporators bowed to your request to let the Executive Committee deal with their complaints last year in Orlando.

Please, take courage and stand with us.

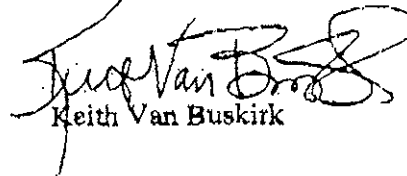
Sincerely,



Wayne C. Rickert



C. Walter Ruckel



Keith Van Buskirk